

Reducing Health Disparities for People With Developmental Disabilities

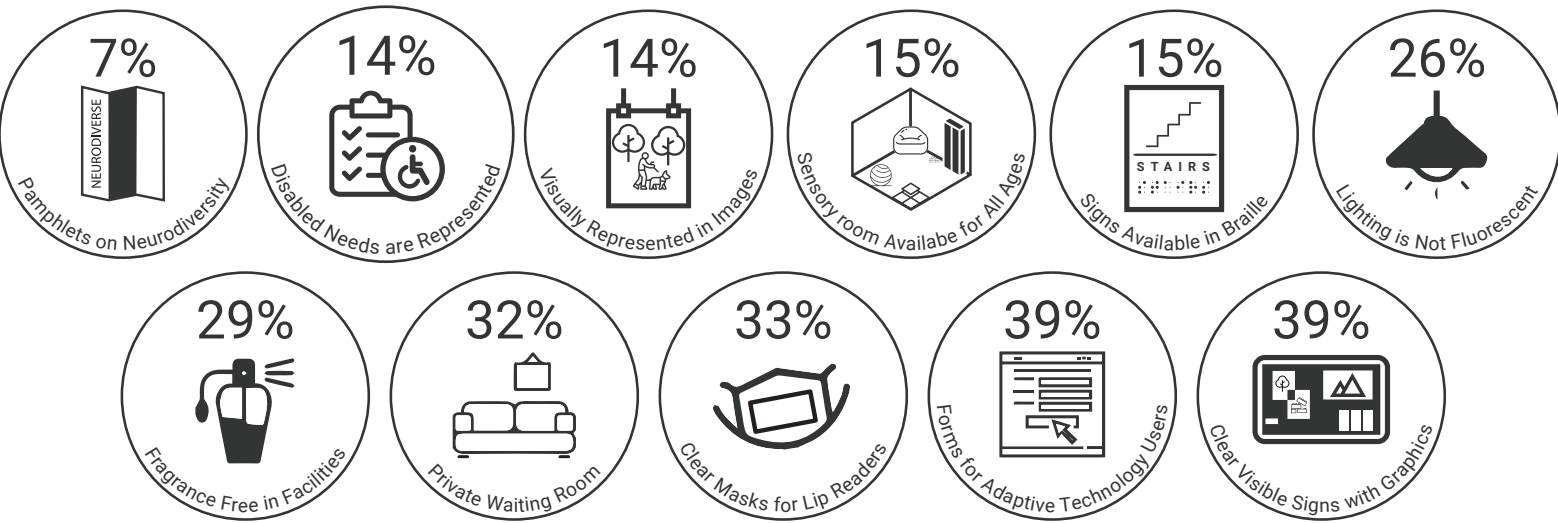


Illustration by Storyset

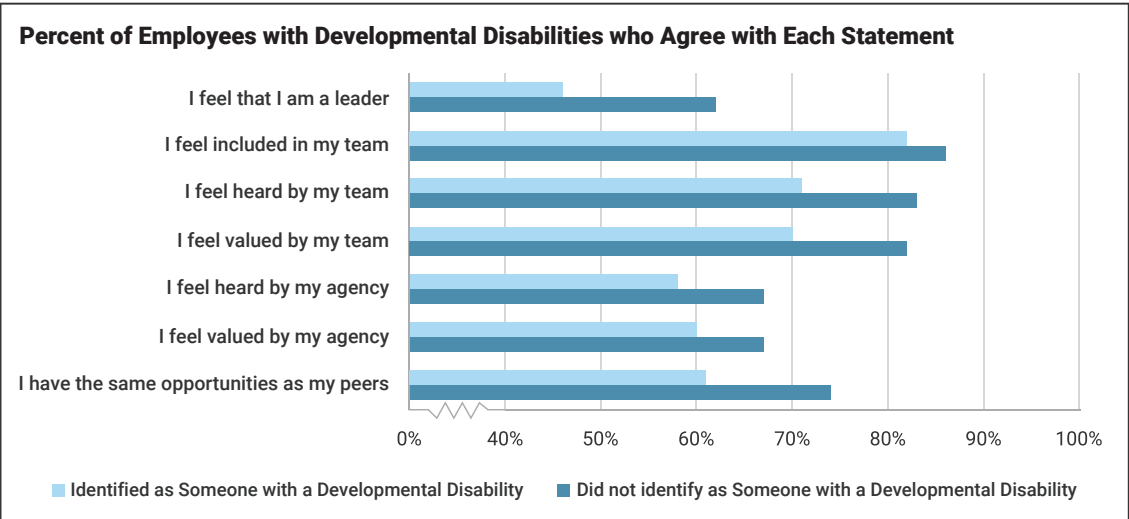
Health Disparities: avoidable and unfair differences in mental health and substance use treatment results experienced by social groups with fewer resources.

Welcoming, Accessible, and Inclusive Facilities

A Developmental Disabilities workgroup made a list of things that would help them feel welcome. Researchers walked through the facilities to see how many items from the list were there. They saw these things about 32% of the time.



Inclusive Workplace Atmosphere



Employees who identified as developmentally disabled were **less likely** to feel included, valued, or heard than employees who did not.

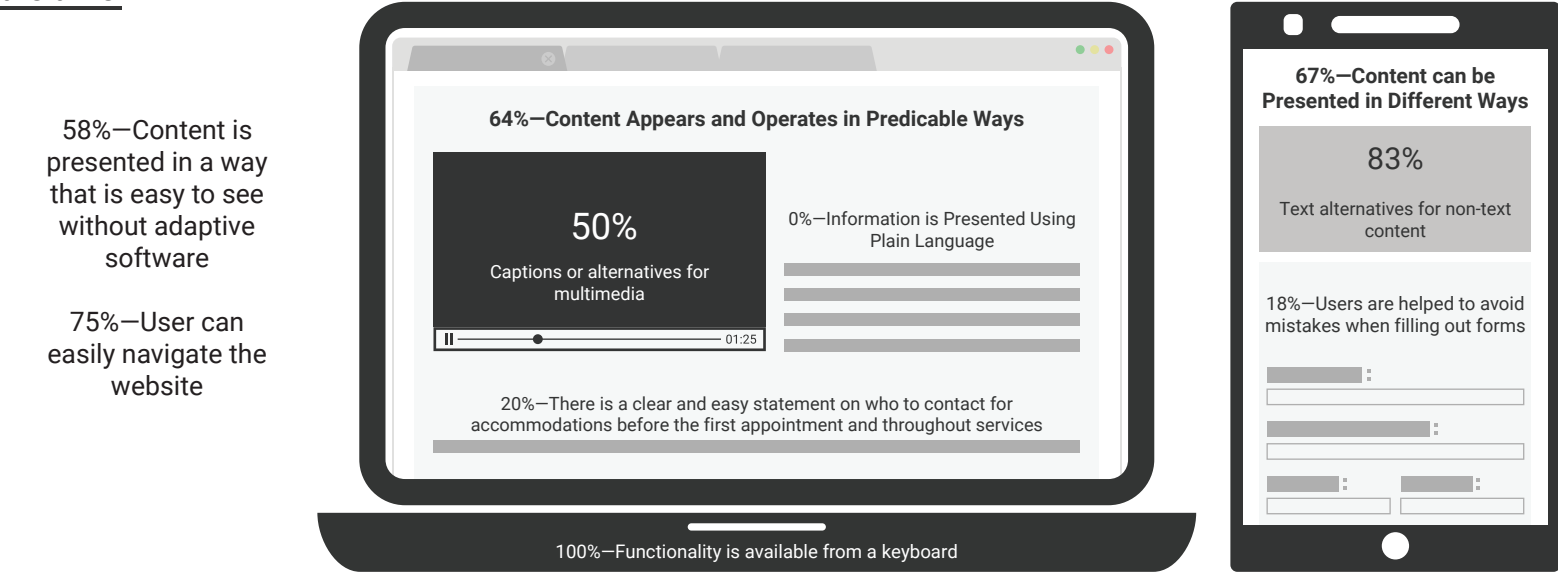
Percent of Persons with Developmental Disabilities in Administrative Roles

Staff who identified as developmentally disabled were **less likely** to have jobs as administrators than staff who did not.



Percentage of Sites that Followed Accessibility Standards

The developmental disabilities workgroup and community members reviewed public-facing materials from each agency. Researchers found items important to the developmentally disabled community about 17% of the time.



Recommendations

Provide more effective training, held with developmentally disabled community members or organizations, with content that focuses on what is important to developmentally disabled stakeholders.

Include people with developmental disabilities in all policy decision making.

Ensure that programs tailored to people with developmental disabilities are available.

Provide resources on harm reduction and recognize that abstinence from substances isn't the goal for everyone.

Recognize and address limits of some traditional therapies, screenings, and tools for some disabled people (e.g. screenings or other tools that require reading or writing).

For more information email: osumhtay@utah.gov

View the full needs assessment for additional information: <https://bit.ly/3DO61Yy>
Find the Health Disparities Overview at: <https://bit.ly/3FRoLYi>